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THE CURE  
OF  
PILES, FISTULA,  
PROLAPSUS, HÆMORRHOIDAL TUMOURS,  
AND STRICTURES,  
WITHOUT CUTTING OR CONFINEMENT;  
WITH ILLUSTRATIVE CASES AND PLATES.  
AND ADDITIONAL  
CASES PECULIAR TO WOMEN.

BEING AN ABRIDGMENT OF THE TENTH EDITION OF A TREATISE ON  
THE "DISEASES OF THE RECTUM AND ANUS."

BY

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ETC. ETC. ETC.



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## P R E F A C E.

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THE great desire on the part of the public to obtain useful knowledge on the lowest possible terms, has induced me to put forth this abridgment of my larger work on the Diseases of the Rectum and Anus, in the hope that it may lead many to seek relief who had previously supposed there were no means of cure for the distressing complaints herein treated of.

I have further to remark, that the use of the *Knife* in cases of Piles, Fistula, Prolapsus, &c., renders the safety of the patient frequently very doubtful from the excessive hæmorrhage which often follows the operation ; and that each succeeding case strengthens my confidence in the mode of treatment, for the removal of these painful diseases, *without cutting or confinement*, which is illustrated in the following pages, the result of *twenty-five years' successful practice*.

E. D. SILVER, M.D.,  
*Surgeon.*

14, ALFRED STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE, W.C.,  
*February, 1869.*





THE  
CAUSES AND CURE  
OF  
PILES, FISTULA, STRICTURES,  
ETC. ETC.

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PILES OR HÆMORRHOIDS, AND  
PROLAPSUS.

THE literal definition of the word Hæmorrhoid signifies a flow of blood ; but in the more usual acceptation of the term, Hæmorrhoids or Piles are tumours which make their appearance within the rectum or near the anus at irregular or periodical intervals ; and from the circumstance of their being sometimes attended with an effusion of blood, are generally divided into two principal kinds. When the effusion is present, they are called open, or true piles ; and when otherwise, they are termed blind piles. The effusion of blood has led to an erroneous supposition of its being a symptom or consequence of the tumours ; but experience has given sufficient proof that although they frequently occur together, yet one often exists without the other. It is also sufficiently evident that the flow of blood and the tumours proceed from the same source, and may generally be considered as varieties of the same complaint,

although the immediate and special cause is not the same in every instance. I shall therefore define hæmorrhoids to be a morbid state of the vessels of the rectum and anus, with constriction and pain, attended or succeeded by the formation of internal or external tumours in those parts, and frequently accompanied by an irregular or periodical effusion of blood.

The gravitation of blood to the veins of the lower bowel, on which the due circulations of all the other bowels are dependent, exposes those veins to be liable to much strain and pressure at all times ; and whatever tends to throw the blood inward upon the bowels, the consequent increased congestion of the veins of the rectum, its great sensibility, the acrid nature of its contents, and peculiar muscular construction of its termination, render it the seat of local swellings, inflammations, and effusions.

The increase of hæmorrhoidal tumours, sometimes extending to an enormous size from the quantity of blood effused into their contracted cavity acquiring more permanent solidity, forms a source of most painful inconvenience, and, by being protruded, become inflamed and ulcerated, and generally occasion a prolapsus of the anus, as the following case will illustrate :—

A lady, aged thirty-six, consulted me, who had been more than ten years afflicted with what she considered piles, without suffering any great pain. They always protruded when the bowels were relieved, and she could easily return them ; until one day, after having a motion, she found them so large that she could not replace them. On the

following day I was sent for to see her, and I found her in a miserable state, and on her knees by the side of her bed. There were four large tumours, one about the size of a walnut, and the other three rather smaller, with a considerable prolapsus of the bowel. The inflammation was very great, and she could barely allow me to touch the part. I immediately had eighteen leeches applied round the rectum; they bled very freely, and in about an hour and a half the tumours and prolapsus returned. I desired her to keep very quiet, and told her that when she felt a desire for a motion to send for me. On the following morning I received a message requesting my immediate attendance. On my arrival I found that she had just had a motion, and that the tumours and prolapsus were protruded, but by using very little pressure the parts were readily returned, owing to the measures employed the previous day. She continued to improve; and on the fifth day of my attendance I advised her to allow me to apply my dressing to the tumours and prolapsus, which would give her permanent relief. To this she at once consented; and in one month she was effectually cured.

If the tumours here described had been removed with the knife, I question much whether the hæmorrhage would not have endangered her life.

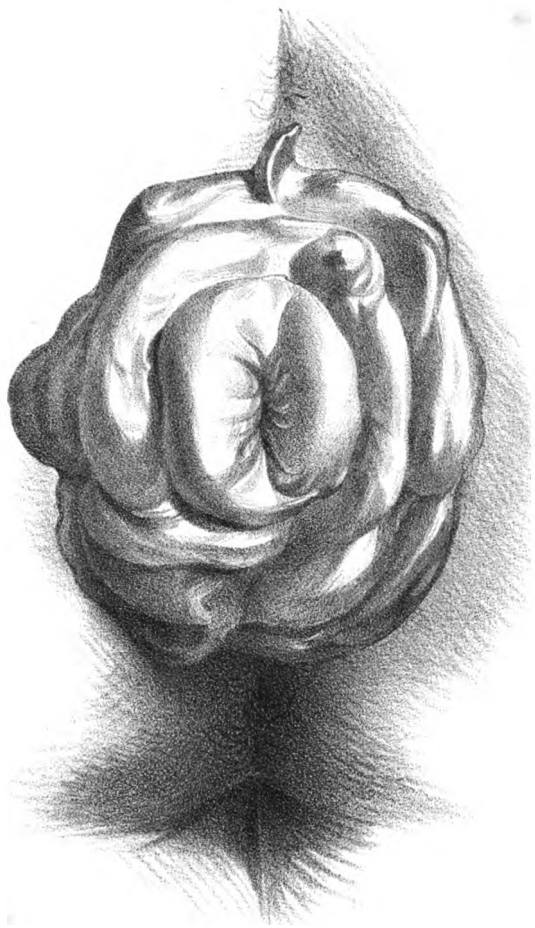
External or anal piles are situated exactly at the extremity of the intestine, where the mucous lining of it is contiguous to the skin, so as to have the side next to the intestine covered with mucous membrane, and the outside part covered with the common integument or skin. In their angry state

they are tense, hard, blue, moveable tumours, varying in magnitude from a small to a very large grape, very tender on pressure, and causing continued aching and stiffness in the part. The larger they are the more pain they occasion, because more of their internal part comes within the pressure of the sphincter muscle, which renders them a constant source of pain. In their quiet state they seem like small folds at the external edge of the sphincter, but they soon fill again, resuming their exquisite sensibility, and giving renewed uneasiness. These are liable to be mistaken for obtruded internal tumours. Sometimes one large elastic, but tense, heated, painful, and throbbing kind of large anal tumour (as large as a chesnut) will occupy one side of the orifice of the bowel, neither inclining towards the bowel nor outwardly. It much resembles an abscess, or a protruded internal tumour; but if treated as the former, or attempted to be relieved by forcing it within the sphincter muscle, serious consequences would be likely to ensue.

PROLAPSUS ANI consists in an eversion of the lower portion of the rectum, and its protrusion through the anus. Sometimes a little fold of the mucous membrane only protrudes, but in ordinary cases the muscular coat and whole thickness of the bowel come down. This affection is most common in infancy and old age. It may depend on a natural laxity and delicacy of structure, or be caused by violent straining, in consequence of costiveness or of internal piles, or of stricture of the rectum. Sometimes the upper part of the rectum becomes prolapsed and invaginated within the



*Plate. 1.*



PROLAPSUS OF THE RECTUM.

*Hirxleben, lith.*

*M&N Hanhart, Imp<sup>t</sup>.*

lower, giving rise to most of the symptoms of stricture. On examination, however, the canal of the rectum is found obstructed by a tumour with a capacious cul de sac around it, and with the natural passage of the bowel in its centre.

Various causes may conduce to an attack of piles. In some cases they may be attributed to predisposed tendency, which impedes the return of blood through the blood-vessels of the rectum or lower intestine, those veins not being like others, supplied with valves, and deriving but little support from the yielding loose cellular lining of that intestine, which renders them liable to become distended and gorged with blood either from the slightest constitutional or mechanical causes. In other cases they may be traced to the very frequent and decided influence of hereditary predisposition; while among the more *immediate causes* of this complaint may be enumerated sluggish or costive bowels, sedentary habits, violent and depressive passions of the mind, drastic purgatives, irritation from worms, excess of luxury, and more particularly in females, *a disordered state or disease of the parts of generation, which frequently exist unknown to the patient.* (See Cases Peculiar to Women, page 37.)

A primary attack of hæmorrhoids is usually very slight, and without any previous or perceptible constitutional derangement. It is attended with more or less sensation of fulness and weight about the extremity of the rectum, usually extending to the sacrum and perineum, with increased and sympathetic sensibility of the urethra, bladder, and contiguous parts.



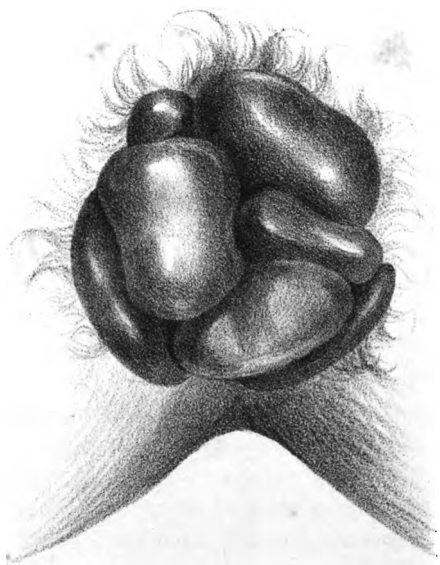
During this state, which generally continues from two to three days, some inconvenience is experienced when the bowels are moved, and in many cases a little flow of blood takes place at the time, which smears the surface of the fæces with a slight red colour; but in some instances the flow of blood never occurs during the first or second hæmorrhoidal attack, and its occurrence seems to form a critical turn in the complaint. The above symptoms are relieved, and disappear for a longer or shorter interval, to be renewed in a much greater degree, and they acquire strength by every repetition of them. The blood is also more profusely discharged, tumours of various size appear around or within the anus, and the tension, pain, and sympathetic sensations alluded to are proportionably increased.

The procedure of these tumours is attended with a smarting and pricking pain, which increases as they become swelled, and is frequently much aggravated by the pressure of the sphincter muscle after stool, when the blood is sometimes spurted out through small apertures, or oozes more gently from their surface. Sometimes they are moistened by a whitish serum exhaled from their surface, or they are quite dry; but after being dilated for some time, they in either case periodically collapse into pendulous flaps of skin, and when external, form an indented and protruding margin to the anus.

Hæmorrhoidal tumours when formed usually increase in size according to the recurrence and renewed vigour of the periodical attack; and those tumours which were originally within the rectum are frequently forced without the anus, acquiring an



*Plate . II .*



PILES, or HÆMORRHOIDAL TUMOURS.

*Griseben, lith.*

*M & H. Hanhart. Imp<sup>t</sup>*

enormous size, and forming adhesions by which their return is impeded, and if replaced, are again protruded as foreign bodies to the rectum. From the disposition of these tumours to vascular action, the pressure of the sphincter muscle, and the injury they receive in the passage of hardened fæces, violent inflammation and most excruciating pains are produced, which often terminate in suppuration and sloughing of the tumours, as illustrated in the following case :—

A lady, aged forty, consulted me, who had for a long time experienced much suffering from tumours within the rectum, and at the regular period of their becoming enlarged, she was seized with a most violent pain and throbbing in the rectum, quick pulse, and other local and general symptoms of irritation. She described her sufferings to be dreadful since her bowels were moved last; her face was distorted with pain, and she could not endure the slightest movement of the body, nor any one to move about her chamber without expressing her excessive agony by loud and reiterated shrieks. I ordered twelve leeches to be applied round the rectum, and a fomentation of camomile flowers and poppy heads after the leeches came off. On the following day, after the bowels had been relieved, a copious discharge of matter took place, which gave her very great relief. In a few days I was enabled to examine the part and to apply my dressing, and in less than six weeks the cure of this lady's complaint was completed to her perfect satisfaction, as the following kind note will testify :—

"DEAR SIR,—I feel bound to acknowledge the great benefit I have derived from your remarkable surgical skill and attention, which have entirely eradicated a distressing disease under which I have most acutely suffered for the past eleven years; and I have no hesitation in thus avowing, that during the short time I have been under your professional care, a cure—I feel to be perfect—has been effected of a complaint, which appeared to baffle the ability of many medical men of eminence in England whom I had previously consulted, unfortunately without any benefit. I trust that all those persons who may be unhappily suffering under similar complaints to mine, may be fortunate enough to place themselves under your care and treatment.

"I remain, dear sir,

"Your obliged and grateful patient,

"——."

The symptoms of hæmorrhoidal congestion which gradually supervene, are, local determination of blood, sensations of weight, fulness, aching and heat about the anus, the aching pains often extending to the loins, the thighs, and round the lower region of the belly; all which local uneasiness is much increased when, and for some time after, the bowels are relieved, and the pressure thereby caused may occasion bleeding to be added to these symptoms. When fever and shiverings are concurrent with congestion and hæmorrhage, which is sometimes the case, the patient generally finds those symptoms much relieved by a copious effusion of blood from the rectum; but it is only

to be considered as a temporary relief, for the congestion which induces the bleeding is very liable to produce much structural disease. Should the patient be disposed to apoplexy or to the spitting of blood, an occasional and moderate hæmorrhage from the intestines should be very carefully interfered with. In some cases excessive hæmorrhage is the only local symptom, and not at all proportioned to the local congestion ; yet the source of such bleeding is the same, the blood exuding through the thin membranous surface of the vessels without their being in any way ruptured ; and the discharge of blood sometimes proceeds from one and then from another part of the internal vascular surface.

In cases where tumours have less thickening, and consist of enlarged folds of the lining membrane, they produce much the same symptoms, and when protruded by the action of the bowels, may be liable to be considered as a prolapsus of the bowel only ; but it is generally more than that, being in fact tumours in structure internally and prolapsus in appearance externally. These inward tumours never waste away of themselves, but continue a permanent source of suffering, becoming casually swollen ; and when their protrusion cannot be returned by the patient within the rectum, from some mechanical hindrance, they then continue to enlarge, one or more acquire a livid colour, resembling a dark grape, and the circulation may become so far interrupted that mortification takes place, as happened in the following case :—

Fifteen years ago my attendance was requested on behalf of a lady who was considered to be in a

state of great danger. On my arrival I was informed that her bowel had been protruded for more than twenty hours, and that several medical men had vainly tried to return it. On examination, I found that there were several tumours, the largest being in a state of mortification. I immediately removed it, and ordered eighteen leeches to be applied round the rectum, and in about two hours after the bowel was returned. I then ordered her a composing draught, and, on seeing her the following morning, found that the bowels had been relieved, and that the part had returned with very little trouble to her. I visited her for several days, during which time her health so much improved, that on the sixth day I was enabled to apply my dressing to the remaining tumours, which were all removed, and the case cured in the course of five weeks' attendance.

Whenever hæmorrhoidal tumours have become large and painful by being frequently protruded without the anus, which renders them liable to injury and ulceration, I should strongly recommend their removal as speedily as possible.

With regard to the source and nature of the hæmorrhoidal discharge, the amount of blood emitted at a time varies from a teaspoonful to a pint. But many accredited writers have quoted cases in which the quantity of blood discharged appears almost incredible. The celebrated physician Smetius, relates the case of a man, forty-eight years of age, who passed thirty pounds of blood from the anus in three or four days; and Hoffman has stated the case of a female, who, after

the menstrual and hæmorrhoidal effusions had been suppressed for some time, voided more than twenty pounds of blood in twenty-four hours. Such details may be exaggerated either from the quantity not having been correctly ascertained, or the peculiar disposition of some patients to add to the singularity of their individual cases, and the admixture of other fluids may impose a belief in the quantity of blood discharged being much more than it really is ; yet there can be no doubt but that discharges of blood, or of fluid bearing a resemblance to it, sometimes occur to a very great extent without proving fatal, as the following case illustrates :—

A lady from Cheltenham consulted me for a disease of the rectum, which she considered piles. On examination, I found a tumour as large as a hen's egg. I told her it would be necessary for her to undergo a slight operation for its removal, to which she consented. I prescribed her a draught to be taken at night, and the following morning an injection—consisting of gruel and castor-oil—was administered. After the bowels were relieved, the tumour protruded, and a very copious hæmorrhage (at least three pints of fluid) followed. I had some difficulty in subduing the hæmorrhage, and I was obliged to stay with her nearly two hours before it completely subsided. In about four days after I applied my usual dressing, which removed the tumour without her losing one drop of blood ; and she returned home in a month from the time she first consulted me perfectly cured.

This case was a very extraordinary one. The



lady assured me that she had often gone a week without having an evacuation of the bowels; and on one occasion she had not had a stool for nineteen days, during which period she had taken nearly one pint of castor-oil.

The liability of the hæmorrhoidal discharge to return at regular periods is its most peculiar feature, and gives it a most singular resemblance to the menstrual evacuation in females; and some instances have come under my observation where a periodical discharge of blood from the rectum has alternated with, and succeeded, a suppression of menstrual discharge.

The conflicting opinions of various practical authors as to the treatment of internal hæmorrhoids, and the alarming details which they record as the result of their removal by excision and other means which have been used, seem to involve their general treatment in much fearful uncertainty. To remove internal hæmorrhoidal tumours by excision, may be advocated by some desperate practitioners as an easy and prompt means, but the serious hæmorrhage which it occasions renders this operation liable to very dangerous and even fatal consequences; as after manual pressure, and every means have been employed to suppress the effusion of blood with apparent success, the most profuse bleeding frequently recommences within the rectum, without oozing from the anus, which is eventually voided in a dark, clotted, feculent fluid form, and in so alarming a quantity at each urgent and frequent desire to stool, that the professional attendant may perhaps be little aware of the fatal situation of his patient

until exhaustion from loss of blood renders the case hopeless, and thus sadly and prematurely terminates existence.

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### STRICTURE OF THE RECTUM.

The causes and symptoms of Stricture of the Rectum are frequently very obscure ; but whatever tends to produce irritation in the mucous lining of the alimentary canal may be considered to be the remote cause of stricture, and the more immediate, that of obstruction, or a change of structure in the part. The symptoms and progress of the disease are frequently very insidious, being at times scarcely perceptible to the patient, until it is become malignant, when the symptoms augment in violence as the contraction increases, and the patient's life often depends upon the practitioner's timely and correct discrimination of the real nature of the complaint from other disorders of the rectum, which are accompanied with similar symptoms. I am very frequently consulted by persons who are labouring under fistula, and often find on examination that they have likewise a bad stricture.'

As strictures vary materially in their nature, according to the length of time they have existed, so also do their symptoms vary ; but an obstruction to the free passage of the fæces is a general symptom in all its various forms, and a careful examination of the rectum by one practically experienced in these diseases cannot fail to detect its true character.

I was sent for to see a lady of title, who was suffering very much from a contracted state of the

rectum. The lady described her case very accurately. She had been scarified with the lancet round the rectum, which had afforded no relief. I examined the bowel, when, to my surprise, I found some difficulty in introducing my little finger. I told her that it would be necessary to have the rectum bougie introduced in a very careful manner every day, to which she consented; and after I had passed the instrument daily for five successive days, she expressed herself to be very considerably relieved, and on the eighth day from the commencement of my treatment, I received the following note:—"Lady —— finds herself quite recovered from her complaint. She will be glad to receive Mr. S—— to-morrow at the usual hour; but she conceives that Mr. S—— will not find it necessary to do anything further in the way of cure."

I informed her, however, the next day, that she was not cured, although greatly relieved, and that I was certain she would experience a relapse, if the use of the bougie was not continued for some time longer. Her ladyship said that she was anxious to visit an aged relative living in the country, and who had been taken ill, but that on her return, if she felt the least inconvenience, she would immediately send for me. In about three weeks' time I received a note, requesting that I would call on her at the usual hour. I did so, and continued attending her until she was perfectly cured. On taking my final leave, her ladyship expressed her thanks in the most grateful terms.

The slow and insidious formation of stricture or contraction of the bowel renders it difficult to

ascertain at times whether it has been a primary cause, or is a consequence of other complaints of the rectum, such as fistula, hæmorrhoidal tumours, &c., which are often present when it is first discovered to exist ; and the cause or origin of a *spasmodic* contraction of the bowel is still more mysterious, as it not only may exist in connexion with other complaints of the rectum, but is sometimes to be found in a very distressing degree in females, when the most careful examination cannot discover any of the above causes for its production ; and it is generally in these latter cases that we find it to be a very sure evidence of the existence of one or other of the diseases peculiar to women. (See Cases Peculiar to Women, page 37.)

An abrasion of the mucous lining of the rectum is also a frequent attendant on stricture ; but although they may exist together, yet the most distressing cases of ulcerated bowel are often unattended with any contraction. The patient complains of great suffering near the vicinity of the anus, and cannot endure a sitting position unless protected from pressure by resting on the hip ; the bowels cannot be evacuated without great difficulty and pain, which then comes on and continues for some hours, attended with irritability about the bladder, heat in the urethra, continual desire to make water, and much uncomfortable sensation of fulness in the perineum. In alternating from less severe to more aggravated symptoms—which is generally the case in this complaint—it is preceded by a discharge of a mixture of matter and blood, or of blood only, from the bowel.

When symptoms of spasmodic stricture exist without any perceptible alteration in the structure of the bowel, or unconnected with any morbid condition of other parts in the vicinity, its origin and continuance can only be attributed to a nervous and general irritability of the system, and which may also have constituted a predisposition to its occurrence, or it may be the effects of neuralgia or tic douloureux. In all cases, however, a most careful examination of the patient is absolutely necessary.

In cases of simple stricture of the rectum a judicious use of the bougie is the most approved treatment, and generally produces satisfactory results. A bougie of the size which is found to fill the stricture easily should be carefully passed through it every day, or every second or third day, as the feelings of the patient will permit; and on each introduction it should be allowed to be retained from fifteen to twenty minutes. The absorption caused by the pressure of the bougie will gradually enable the patient to have the size of the bougie increased, and the rectum will at length be restored to its original state; but after that has been accomplished, the occasional introduction of the bougie should not be too soon dispensed with, that the cure may be permanent. The injury which may be accidentally done to the part by the passing of hardened excrement, or the irritation which is often produced by purging, should be carefully avoided as much as possible, by occasionally taking some mild aperient to keep the bowels gently and regularly open; and this purpose will be best effected

by having recourse to such unoffending laxatives as the experience of each patient has found best suited to the bowels, provided always that they are not compounded of aloes or other resinous drastics, which act principally upon, and more or less irritate the rectum.

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### FISTULA IN ANO.

This insidious disease may be properly defined to be a hollow deep sinus, its sides and cavity indurated, lined with a thin membrane, without the slightest disposition to heal, and discharging a thin unhealthy fluid.

The abscess which frequently forms externally or internally near the anus may be occasioned by some accidental contusion, or other injury to the part. It may arise from sitting upon a damp seat, a general deterioration of health, or a morbid condition of the rectum ; and it is usually preceded by a greater or less degree of irritative fever and restlessness, followed by tension, heat, throbbing pain, and swelling near the anus.

Such abscesses are likewise sometimes caused by the lodgment of fish bones, pins, needles, core of apples, and other indigestible substances that have been accidentally swallowed, which passing from the stomach become enveloped in the gut immediately above the sphincter muscle.

The diffused and deep-seated abscess gradually makes its way downwards until it surrounds the anus, becoming a large enclosure of matter, and by

extended irritation generally adds retention of urine, tenesmus, and diarrhœa, or obstinate costiveness to the above local and general derangement. On the first appearance of this disease, a part near the anus is swollen with a circumscribed hardness, and in a short time this hardness becomes red and inflamed, and matter is formed in its centre, the pain being very great, the tumefaction large and exquisitely tender, and often produces a considerable quantity of matter; deep sloughs are also formed, and much injury is done to the hæmorrhoidal vessels and parts about the rectum.

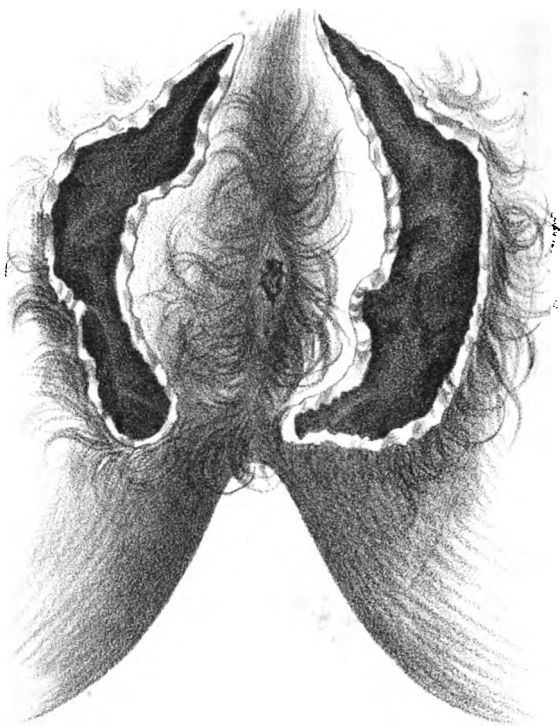
The smaller and circumscribed abscess is formed in masses of hardened tissue near the anus, and is attended with local heat, pain, redness, and swelling, without much constitutional derangement; but in some cases an obstinate costiveness is attendant on this kind of abscess, frequently accompanied with a painful distension and inflammation of the hæmorrhoidal vessels, and the whole habit is much disordered by the quantity of hard fæces contained within the large intestine; and although its local symptoms are not so violent as in the previous case, and the matter discharged is much less in quantity, it is generally very offensive and unhealthy, and the crude cavity of the abscess has a very unfavourable appearance.

The place where abscess points is sometimes at a distance from or near to the anus, and when matured and allowed to burst, either by the matter forcing its way through the skin or into the intestine, the cavity of the abscess contracts only to a limited extent, leaving a canal or fistula, which is





*Plate. III.*



FISTULA IN ANO.

Ulceration of the Nates from Fistula in Ano.

*Foxleben, del.*

*M. & N. Hanhart, imp.*

very indisposed to close, and from which a purulent fluid continually exudes. In time, however, the sides of the abscess become more consolidated, and the fistula lined with a thin smooth tissue, much resembling a mucous membrane. Whatever may be the nature or situation of the abscess, when it bursts, it either makes an opening internally into the cavity of the intestine, or through the exterior skin without the anus, and sometimes through both, either by one orifice or more; and in those cases, where the matter escapes through one or more openings in the skin only, it is called a blind external fistula; in those which have one or more openings into the intestine, without any external opening, it is called a blind internal fistula; and in those which have an opening into the intestine and also through the external skin, it is named a complete fistula; but the more frequent are the blind external.

Sometimes the external opening of a fistula is some distance from the verge of the anus, and tending inwardly, passes through or between the external sphincter, and then descending, passes through the fibres of the internal sphincter muscle. In some fistulæ, their sinuses are nearly straight, whilst others burrow in a devious course from their commencement to their aperture near the anus; but their direction and situation vary, and the surrounding surface becoming hard, renders their trace more difficult; their orifice is sometimes concealed between the folds of the mucous membrane, but on pressure being made on the induration, which usually remains where the abscess was origi-

nally situated, matter is generally discharged from the anus, or the air from the cavity of the abscess may be heard to pass into the intestine. The thin fluid which oozes from the sinuses is sometimes so foetid as to excoriate the parts of the nates near their orifice, and the artificial openings frequently become too contracted for a free discharge of the pus, or even temporarily closed, when the accumulated lodgment of the matter causes an extension of the sinuous tracks with secondary abscess.

## ADDITIONAL CASES.

The following additional Cases have been selected from a large number which have received the Author's treatment during the past twenty-five years of a successful practice, and they are here inserted with a view of illustrating not only the success which has ever attended his peculiar mode of cure, but the universal satisfaction of his numerous patients.

### CASE I.

Mr. S. T., residing in the Strand, forty-five years of age, consulted me for the cure of a complicated disease of the rectum, with which he had been previously afflicted for upwards of twelve years. It was with considerable difficulty that he came to the determination to undergo the treatment necessary for the cure of his complaint, owing to his natural timid disposition, and a fear that there was no effectual relief for him. After I had made an examination of his case, which was one of prolapsus and hæmorrhoidal tumours, I told him that his cure was undoubtedly quite possible if he was willing to submit to my usual treatment. He eventually complied, and in less than one month was perfectly recovered, in which condition he continues up to the present time.

The following letter I afterwards received from him :—

Strand, June, 1844.

My dear Sir,—I cannot sufficiently express the pleasure which I feel in acknowledging the infinite service you have rendered me, and which your skill alone, I am sure, could have so easily accomplished. To contrast the many years of suffering with the comfort I now feel, would be likening my stupidity in enduring so much pain, to the prudence I exhibited in consulting you for the relief thereof.

As to your treatment of the case,—one, as you know, of a very complicated nature,—I am sure I can never say too much in its praise; so simple and so gentle, that a child could have borne it. Your kindness and attention, also, will ever cause me to feel an interest in your behalf, which I shall always be happy to exhibit whenever occasion serves.

Do not scruple to make use of these few lines, coming from one who is very thankful, but do with them as you may feel disposed; also, do not hesitate to refer any person to me, for the oftener you do so, the more I shall be delighted to relate the happy tale of my recovery from a very distressing complaint, through the instrumentality of your superior and gentle treatment.

With every sincere wish for your health and welfare, believe me, my dear Sir,

Yours gratefully,

S. T——.

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## CASE II.

A gentleman from India, about thirty-seven years of age, consulted me for the cure of a fistula. For

some years previous to his being attacked with this disease, he had been afflicted with piles, which had given him great pain; they, however, disappeared, but left behind them a disease far more distressing in its character. He had consulted many surgeons of celebrity in India, and had been once operated on for fistula, which had now re-appeared with increased severity. He was sadly afraid there was no cure for him, as the gentleman who had performed the operation was considered to be of great talent as a surgeon, and would undoubtedly have relieved him from his complaint had it been possible.

On examining this case, I found, besides the fistula, which was very extensive, a stricture of the bowel, about two inches and a half from the anus. I had previously suspected the probability of its existence, from the description the patient gave me of his stools, which he said were very small in size and quantity, and were voided with much difficulty. After prescribing some opening medicine, I was enabled the next day to apply my dressing to the fistula, which, in ten days, came away, the sinus having nearly closed. I then introduced into the rectum a small bougie, which passed the stricture. By daily using this instrument, and increasing its size by degrees, I soon relieved this patient from those diseases which had so long afflicted him. The following letter I subsequently received from him:—

Norfolk-street, Strand, August, 1846.

My dear Sir,—I have great pleasure in sending you the enclosed, and beg to assure you that I shall always retain a grateful sense of the great service

you have rendered me in curing me of the distressing complaints for which I put myself under your care. Should you wish to have a formal statement of my case, I shall be most happy to furnish it. And wishing you all that success which you so eminently deserve, believe me, my dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

J. C.——.

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### CASE III.

A gentleman, from Bermondsey, consulted me for the cure of a complaint of the rectum, which he had been informed was piles. On examination of his case, I found two tumours protruding beyond the anus in a state of ulceration, and emitting a purulent discharge of yellow matter. I was enabled the same day to apply my dressing to the largest tumour, which disappeared in three days; the other tumour I afterwards operated on, and completed the cure in a fortnight.

The following letter I have since received from this patient:—

Bermondsey, October, 1845.

Dear Sir,—Influenced by feelings of mingled pleasure and gratitude, I now address a few lines to inform you of the great benefit I have experienced from your successful mode of treatment, which has proved to me one of the greatest blessings I ever received from the hand of man.

It is now more than six months since I sought your valuable aid and assistance, during which time I have not only been free from piles, but I have

been much better in health and spirits; I can therefore, with the greatest confidence and the strongest emphasis, pronounce the words, "I am perfectly cured" of a disease I had been labouring under for some years.

Should you ever meet with a patient timid like myself, who wishes a reference to a once fellow-sufferer, I shall be most happy to relieve his mind from all doubts or fears as to the expediency of applying for that relief which I have so greatly received at your hands. With every feeling of gratitude, I remain, dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

R. H——.

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#### CASE IV.

A lady, the wife of an officer in the army, then residing in my neighbourhood, applied to me in consequence of a very painful affection of the rectum, which had afflicted her for four years, during which time her health had been gradually declining. She experienced a very distressing uneasiness and bearing down, not only when moving about, but particularly when sitting down. There was also a sense of heat, with a pain which she thought proceeded from a swelling formed within the bowel. These symptoms were greatly aggravated on going to stool. Being naturally very timid, she had not previously consulted any professional gentleman, but hearing of my ability in the cure of these diseases, she had summoned courage enough to pay me a visit.



On examination I found a fistula and a tumour. In the course of the week she consented to my operating on the tumour; and as soon as it was removed, which was at the end of three days, I was requested to continue my treatment for the cure of the fistula. I accordingly applied my dressing to the fistula; in twelve days it came away, and she expressed herself very much relieved. In three weeks from our first interview she was perfectly cured, as the following letter received from this lady's husband will testify:—

United Service Club, April, 1849.

My dear Sir,—Enclosed I have the pleasure to forward you a draft on Messrs. Cox and Co., for ———, and take the same opportunity of tendering you my warmest thanks, in which my dear wife unites, for your skilful treatment and attentions to Mrs. H. during the period she has been under your care.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W. H——.

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### CASE V.

The following case was written by the patient, a clergyman in Devonshire:—

In February, 1842, I first perceived that I had a fistula. I allowed it to run on until November in that year without taking any notice of it; which probably I might not have done then, but that I had another abscess formed in the perinæum, which

prevented me attending to my usual professional duties. I consulted a surgeon at Exeter, who, not observing the abscess, recommended me to have the fistula opened, which was accordingly done ; in the course of ten days afterwards, the abscess broke and left two sinuses ; these also, in the course of two or three weeks were cut open, which put me to great torture. Every attention was paid to the wounds, which healed very slowly, and it was not till the following May, 1843, that they were considered to be healed. In about a month afterwards, however, the fistula showed fresh signs of again troubling me, and there appeared a small external opening in the old place, about half an inch deep, which I could not get to heal up. I went to the sea-side for three weeks in the following August, but it was of no use. I again consulted my surgeon in September, who recommended me to do nothing to it, but wash the part and keep it perfectly clean ; to this I have of course attended. The little discharge, the surgeon informed me, was nothing more than mucus ; its continuance, however, I am satisfied, will produce serious debility. Thus has my case gone on until the present time ; the fistula has increased in depth to about an inch ; and the discharge is sometimes clear and bright, and at other times of a darker colour. I mostly put a small piece of lint to the opening every morning, with plaister over it, which absorbs all dampness, until the following morning, when I again wash the part, and apply lint, &c., as before.

Having now fully detailed the particulars of my case, and having carefully perused your excellent

work on these diseases (in which I find cases of far greater magnitude than mine that have been successfully treated by you), will you be so kind as to inform me when I had better come to London for the purpose of receiving your advice and attendance?

On the 11th of October, 1844, this gentleman arrived in London, and I was requested to visit him, at — Hotel, Piccadilly. He seemed very much fatigued from the journey, though he had taken two days to perform it, and his health was very much impaired. On examining his case, I found a fistula of very considerable magnitude penetrating the gut, about three inches and a half from the anus. I ordered a draught for him to take the next morning; and the following day, after the bowels were relieved, I applied my dressing. In less than a month he was perfectly cured; and, after acknowledging in a very sincere manner the great benefit he had received from my treatment, he left London to return home to his family. I have since received from him the following letter:—

Exeter, January, 1845.

“ My dear Sir,—According to your request at our last interview, I write to inform you that I continue in the enjoyment of excellent health. I cannot refrain from again begging you to accept my best acknowledgments for the kind care, great skill, and judgment you exhibited in effecting a complete cure of my long-standing disease. I consider myself a living monument of the superiority of your treatment over the usual surgical method.

Believe me, my dear Sir, I shall ever call to mind with much pleasure the day I went to London for the purpose of consulting you, and be assured that the deep debt of gratitude I owe for the skilful treatment and unremitting attention received at your hands will never be effaced from the memory of

Your ever grateful and obliged,

O. J——.

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### CASE VI.

In December, 1844, a gentleman from Buenos Ayres, South America, consulted me for the cure of a disease of the rectum with which he had been afflicted for many years. He informed me, that, from perusing my work on these complaints, which had been sent him by a relation, he was persuaded to visit England without further delay, and place himself under my treatment.

On examination, I found two large hæmorrhoidal tumours protruding about three-quarters of an inch below the margin of the anus, which was much contracted. The next day, after administering an enema, I applied my dressing to one of the tumours, which, in two days, disappeared. The remaining tumour was subsequently operated on, the contraction of the anus relieved, and the cure completed in less than three weeks. Previous to this gentleman leaving England I received the following letter from him:—

Brixton, March, 1845.

My dear Sir,—You will no doubt be surprised to find me yet in England; I have been unavoidably

detained, but shall leave London early next week. In case I should be deprived of the pleasure of calling on you to say good-bye, I now address you, to express once more my grateful thanks for your attention while under your hands; and at the same time beg to say, that I have been entirely free from my old complaint of piles, and have not the least apprehension of a return of them. Wishing you every happiness, I remain, my dear sir, yours very sincerely,

R. B. N——.

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### CASE VII.

In the same month as the preceding case, a gentleman from Kent consulted me for a very painful disease, which he thought was prolapsus of the rectum. He had been for many years afflicted with this complaint, which, besides the pain it gave, particularly interfered with his usual avocations, being those of a farmer. Having come to London for the purpose of buying a truss, accident placed before him my work on these diseases, a perusal of which immediately determined him to consult me for the cure of his complaint, rather than to purchase an instrument which could only afford temporary relief.

On examination, I found the sphincter muscle so rigid that it was with difficulty I could introduce my finger within the bowel. On withdrawing my finger, an hæmorrhoidal tumour, about the size of a nutmeg, was protruded. The bowels having been relieved, I was enabled to apply my dressing im-

mediately to the tumour, which came away on the third day; I then introduced the bougie, and continued its use daily for nearly a week, which not only removed the spasm of the sphincter muscle, but effectually completed the cure, as the following letter, received from the patient, will testify:—

New Romney, March, 1845.

My dear Sir,—In passing through Ashford yesterday, I gave directions to my bankers there to pay into Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co.'s, Lombard-street, the sum of —— for you. Be kind enough to drop me a line to say you have received it.

I reached home quite well, and beg to acknowledge from my heart, the great kindness and attention I have so lately received from your hands, and for the ease and comfort I now feel from your skill in curing me of a malady which had been a source of misery to me for many years. Ever shall I feel an interest in your behalf, and long, long may you live in the bosom of your family, and an ornament in your profession, is my sincere wish. Mrs. C—— unites with me in kind regards and many thanks. I have the honour to be, my dear Sir,

Yours very respectfully,

W. C——.

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### CASE VIII.

The following case was written by the patient, a clergyman residing in Gloucestershire:—

For many years past I have been a sufferer from internal piles, and for about the last two years I

have laboured under prolapsus ani vel recti, in conjunction with the above. In times past, every evacuation was accompanied with a discharge of blood; but latterly I have lost no blood, except in the effort to return the parts which protrude into the rectum. There is a descent of the latter whenever I go to stool. The tumours are large, and oftentimes it is attended with considerable difficulty to force them back. Such is the rigidity of the parts, that I can scarcely put one of my fingers within the rectum. The pain occasioned by the disease is very great, and the prolapsus troubles me much, particularly when I have an evacuation. My bowels are hard to move (they have been so for years), so much so that I am obliged to take medicine every night to keep them open. If I omit to do this, costiveness follows immediately, and, even though assisted by medicine, my evacuations are very deficient. There is great fulness in my bowels, and a medical man in my neighbourhood, whom I consulted about a year ago, said that they were "gorged" (I use his own term), and that I must get them unloaded. He prescribed for me accordingly, but I have derived little or no benefit. I am desirous, therefore, of availing myself of your advice and treatment, with the hope that, by the blessing of God, I may obtain effectual relief.

This gentleman came to London, and was under my care for nearly three weeks, at the expiration of which period he returned home perfectly cured. I have since received the following letter from him :—

May 12th, 1845.

My dear Sir,—A month having elapsed since my departure from London, I write, according to promise, in reference to the object of my late journey. I am happy to be able to say, that the relief afforded by you under my distressing malady (and for which I desire to be thankful to a kind Providence), has been of a very satisfactory nature. Hitherto I have had no relapse of piles or prolapsus, and, if such be the will of the Lord, I hope I may not be called again to suffer from my old complaint. Agreeably to your kind advice, I have adopted a more generous diet than what I formerly observed, and, instead of my former beverage, water, I drink home-brewed ale, and also a glass or two of port wine.

With a grateful sense of the great benefit derived from your skill, and of your kind attentions during my late visit to London, I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

S. M. W——.

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CASE IX.

In April, 1845, I received a visit from a lady, who stated her complaint to be at the verge of the anus; observing that, for its relief, she had already consulted three or four of the most eminent surgeons. She said that, several years back, subsequent to a severe complaint in the bowels, she first perceived some little swellings, which were frequently very painful, and that, since that period,



she had occasionally been subject to irritation and other inconveniences.

On examination, I found several small tumours at the verge of the anus, and the anus itself very much contracted. I, however, felt satisfied that the contraction would be perfectly relieved on the removal of the constant source of irritation—the tumours. I accordingly applied my dressing to the whole of the tumours, which speedily effected their removal, and in three weeks the cure was complete.

I have since received the following letter from the husband of this lady :—

Crutched Friars, May, 1845.

Dear Sir,—Since I left town I have been ailing a good deal, and have confined myself at Charlton till to-day, when I feel much stronger. This has delayed my sending you the accompanying check for —, which otherwise should have been sooner in your hands.

Mrs. M—— is recovering her strength, and feels very sensibly the great benefit she has received from your treatment, which has removed a painful and annoying complaint, under which she had suffered severely for some years. With many thanks for all your attentions, I remain, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. M——.

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### CASE X.

The following letter I received from the patient, a medical gentleman residing in Kent :—

Cranbrook, July, 1846.

My dear Sir,—I now have the pleasure of complying with your request, that I would give you some account of my long-continued and complicated complaint, of which your skill has so happily cured me.

It is about ten years since I began to suffer from hæmorrhoidal affections, at first only occasionally, and after the bowels were relieved. For several years the complaint was troublesome by fits, continuing about a week, with intermissions of from one to three or four months. During the fits, some protrusion generally took place after evacuation of the bowels, which it was necessary carefully to return. It was not till about three years ago that I began to suffer almost constantly from uneasiness, often amounting to considerable pain, and attended by more or less of protrusion on taking walking exercise. From this time the disease rapidly increased, till at length I could seldom remain in the erect posture for many minutes together without being annoyed at a large protrusion of piles and prolapsus of the intestine. The pain in the tumours, and also in the back, extending down the thighs, rendered all locomotion so irksome, that I was driven seriously to think of obtaining relief, if possible. With my extremely delicate and irritable constitution, the ordinary operation by excision I deemed far too hazardous; but having met with your work on the subject, I soon resolved to place myself under your treatment, and I am now most thankful to be able to say, that through God's blessing on your great skill and unremitting atten-

tion, this complicated and most distressing complaint is quite removed. Exercise is now delightful to me, and my general health has greatly improved.

Again requesting you will accept my cordial thanks for all your kind attention and your continued interest in my welfare,

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours most truly,

W. R. D——.

The above patient having described his case and the effect of my treatment with so much accuracy and minuteness, renders any further statement unnecessary; I would, however, just observe, that in a great many cases of these complaints, when the ordinary method of treatment has been found perfectly inadequate for effecting a cure, or too dangerous to be adopted, the treatment I have advised has proved invariably successful.

## CASES PECULIAR TO WOMEN.

### CASE XI.

#### *Fistula with Stricture and Prolapsus of the Womb.*

I was consulted by a highly respectable lady from Oxford, who stated that she had been afflicted with a complicated disease for more than twelve years. On examination I found that she was suffering from a prolapsus of the womb, with a fistula and stricture of the bowel. The contraction, which extended an inch and a half above the sphincter, was, however, dilatable, and appeared likely to yield to the bougie. She stated that she had had an inflammation of the womb, and that the prolapsus occurred before she experienced any uneasiness from the bowel. It seemed to me that the first step in this case towards restoring the parts to a healthy state should be to remove the constant source of irritation kept up by the stricture and fistula, and I therefore applied my attention to this point, which perfectly succeeded, and then commenced the cure of the prolapsus. At first it appeared very indisposed to yield to my dressing, owing to the length of time it had existed and the great weakness of the part; but I eventually succeeded, and at the expiration of two months this lady returned home perfectly cured. After she had satisfactorily convinced herself that she was really cured of her complicated disorder, I

had the pleasure of receiving from her the following letter :—

“My dear Sir,—I cannot help putting pen to paper to express my feelings of gratitude to you, for the effectual and radical cure of a most distressing and complicated complaint to which I had been subject for upwards of twelve years. My sufferings from the disease caused life itself to be a misery and a burden ; but notwithstanding my apparently hopeless case, your admirable treatment cured me in less than two months, with little restraint in my diet or otherwise. I had consulted and received the aid of several eminent medical men long before I had the good fortune to make your acquaintance personally, but obtained no relief from their skill. I heartily hope that all sufferers will have the prudence to place themselves unhesitatingly under your treatment, the success of which, under Providence, is certain. With feelings of the deepest gratitude, believe me, dear Sir,

“Yours very truly,

“\_\_\_\_\_.”

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## CASE XII.

*Recto-Vagina Fistula and Hemorrhoidal Tumours,  
with Stricture and Ulceration of the Rectum.*

A lady from Shrewsbury consulted me for a complicated disease of some years' duration. She stated, that eleven years previously she became troubled with piles, to which she had paid but little attention, as the attack was not of long duration ;

and that she had enjoyed the most uninterrupted and robust state of health up to the age of seven-and-twenty, when a severe labour caused an entire change in her constitution. She was attacked with violent pains in her head, back, and sides of her body, accompanied with such a debility of the system, that she was led to consult an eminent physician, who advised the use of shower-baths, bark, and other remedies, by which she was much relieved, but a domestic affliction occurring, brought on a return of all her former bad symptoms, with such a violent attack of piles, that she was induced to consult an eminent surgeon of London, who with the knife removed the largest, which had begun to mortify. He did not consider it necessary to operate on the other tumours, but simply advised bathing, attention to the bowels, and a return into the country for the benefit of her native air, by which for a time she felt much better; but the disease not being eradicated, a recurrence of her previous symptoms came on, and with such distressing pain, that her sufferings became intense, and it then became apparent that the operation she had previously undergone had given rise to a more complicated disorder, and that a communication existed between the bowel and the passage to the womb. Her husband tried all that local medical advice, with change of air and scene, could effect for her benefit, but without avail, when her agonies became indescribable, and her shrieks on having her bowels relieved were heard at a distance; her strength became greatly reduced, and death appeared inevitable, when she was advised by a friend to place

herself without the least delay under my professional care.

On examination, I found that this lady was labouring under a most distressing complication of diseases, there being hæmorrhoidal tumours, a stricture of the rectum, and an ulceration of the bowel where the operation had been performed on the mortified tumour, which opened into the vagina, thus permitting the passage of the fæces from the bowel into the cavity leading to the womb. I explained to her the precise nature of her complaint, agreeably to her urgent request, and assured her that time and patience on her part was all that was necessary for me to effect her complete cure. She expressed her utmost confidence in my treatment, the result of which is manifested in the following letter, since received from this lady :—

“ My dear Sir,—Permit me to thank you with all the warmth I am able to express, for the kind and constant attention, combined with the remarkable ability you displayed in the treatment of my complicated complaint whilst I was your patient. To be enabled to walk, sit, sleep, eat, and in fact do as other people, appears to me yet so strange, that I can scarcely believe it a reality. You are aware that before I had the pleasure of making your acquaintance, I had submitted to an operation by the knife, and I am therefore fully competent to bear witness that your mode of treatment is not only much less painful, but safe, which the other is not. You have cured me, by others pronounced incurable; and I thank you, as many others have

done, and will do, with a heart overflowing with gratitude to a kind Providence, who has wonderfully blessed you with a knowledge of curing the afflicted, which apparently surpasses the usual ability of those who rank as men of eminence. With sincere regard, I remain, dear Sir,

“Yours truly and gratefully,

“\_\_\_\_\_.”

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### CASE XIII.

*Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Amenorrhœa, with  
Anæmia.*

My advice was requested on behalf of a delicate young lady, from Leamington, eighteen years old, and unmarried, for an affection of the lower bowel. I found her suffering from hæmorrhoidal tumours, with much general debility of the system. Her skin and gums were very pale; the tongue exceedingly white; extremities cold; palpitation on the slightest exertion, accompanied by violent pulsation of the blood-vessels of the neck; frequent faintings, headache, and pain under the left breast; and easily agitated by slight noises or unexpected events, with great depression of spirits. The secretions and excretions were very scanty, and the bowels constipated. From these symptoms it was apparent that menstruation was suspended; and, in reply to my question on this point, she readily informed me that the monthly discharge seldom occurred, and that when it did it was very trifling. The irregularity of the uterine functions in this case was evidently



the origin and cause of the formation of the hæmorrhoidal tumours.

Having devoted my attention to the removal of the local complaint—the hæmorrhoidal tumours—which was effected in about ten days, I subsequently employed a course of treatment for the restoration of the menstrual discharge, which eventually became perfectly established; and I had the happiness of seeing this young lady regain a full state of health and strength. In a letter since received from her she states :—

“I can walk a whole morning without the least feeling of fatigue; there has never been any appearance of tumour, nor indeed the slightest discharge of blood from that part; and I am better in health than ever I was in my life. Let me therefore repeat my thanks for the kindness which, during the period of your attendance, I received at your hands.”

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#### CASE XIV.

##### *Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Prolapsus, with Hysteralgia.*

The following case was written by the patient, a lady from Bath :—

“Sir,—Having heard much of your success in the treatment of piles and other complaints in connexion with affections of the womb, I am desirous to have your opinion of my own case. I have been suffering for many years past from a complicated disease of

the rectum and womb. Some years since I first underwent an operation, which gave me some relief, but did not remove the principal inconvenience which I then experienced—namely, the protrusion of the gut through the sphincter muscle of the anus—which not only gave me acute pain, but produced the most unpleasant nervous sensations, and very much prevented me from walking. Three years after I again underwent a similar operation, the effects of which have been of longer duration, but still the gut continues to protrude externally; and, in addition, I now suffer, at times most acutely, from an irritable state of the womb, which appears to descend and stop up the passage. Before the first operation the piles used to bleed considerably, but they have not done so since. I have always been more or less constipated, and consequently have taken laxative medicines in abundance. I am obliged to force and strain when I go to the water-closet if I do not take medicine, and the violent efforts I use at these times never fail to bring down the gut considerably, and the womb appears likewise to protrude. Another very annoying circumstance is, that I cannot pass my urine freely, and for more than ten days after each operation I never passed a drop of water without the aid of an instrument. It is the fear of a recurrence of this very annoying circumstance that has partially influenced me to consult you instead of again seeking the aid of my former medical man, for whose ability I entertain much respect. An acquaintance, who has received the benefit of your treatment, tells me that your mode of cure is so efficient and painless, that I need

not doubt as to its beneficial result. I may mention that I am of a rather nervous temperament, which has been increased by this complication of disorders."

(The letter proceeds to state many domestic matters of a private nature, which are unnecessary to introduce to the reader.)

On the arrival of this lady my attendance was requested, and I found, on examination, that she had three hæmorrhoidal tumours, which protruded externally, accompanied by an irritable state of the womb, from which grew a pear-shaped polypus that projected much into the vagina. The patient had mistaken the polypus tumour for a prolapsus of the womb. I was enabled to cure this complicated case in five weeks, and the patient returned home overjoyed with the complete success of my treatment. I afterwards received the following letter from this lady:—

"Dear Sir,—I now write to discharge a debt of gratitude most assuredly due to you. In a few weeks, without pain, trouble, or annoyance worth mentioning, you have perfectly cured me of most distressing and complicated complaints, which made me a great sufferer for upwards of twenty years, during which period I underwent two surgical operations. I cannot speak too highly of the attention I received from the eminent surgeon who operated upon me, but I must say that I suffered most severe pain, not so much, perhaps, at the moment of operation as for many hours after it, during which the inflammation of the bowel and

the great irritation of the bladder made my sufferings intense. Your mode of cure was completely free from all these inconveniences, neither giving pain at the time nor annoyance afterwards. I write this as my humble opinion of what you have done for me in comparison with what I endured at the hands of one of the most eminent surgeons of the present day, and believe me I am truly overjoyed at my perfect recovery. Trusting that all who are similarly afflicted as I have been may be led to seek your assistance with the firm belief that a cure will be their sure reward,

“ I am, my dear Sir,

“ Yours most sincerely,

“ \_\_\_\_\_.”

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## CASE XV.

### *Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Cachexia.*

A young lady from Yorkshire, twenty years of age, and unmarried, consulted me for the cure of a complaint of the lower bowel, which she had been informed was piles. She was extremely emaciated, with a dry and sallow skin; the pulse frequent; the tongue red and slightly furred; the appetite capricious; the alvine discharges unhealthy; the urine generally high-coloured, and depositing a dark sediment; the perspiration particularly unpleasant; the breath offensive; and the digestive organs deranged. These symptoms indicated a very bad habit of body, arising from an important change in the composition of the blood, and the local disorder

of the rectum was obviously due to the unhealthy condition of the circulating system. This young lady was of an extremely nervous temperament, and it required the utmost delicacy on my part to obtain from her the necessary and important information as to the state and regularity of the monthly periods, and the greatest effort on her part to permit of the indispensable examination, which performed, her resolution became at once established.

On an examination of the bowel I found two hæmorrhoidal tumours, which I removed in due course; and I subsequently administered those remedies which completely restored the condition of the circulating fluid, and by which her health and strength became happily re-established. The following is an extract from a letter since received from this lady:—

“I can now say that I am at present enjoying a better state of health than I ever recollect to have had, and feel truly grateful to the Giver of every good and perfect gift for my complete cure and restoration through your instrumentality, and I desire to thank you most sincerely for your great kindness and attention whilst under professional care.”

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## CASE XVI.

### *Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Chlorosis.*

My advice was requested on behalf of a delicate young lady from Plymouth, seventeen years old, and unmarried, who was suffering from a very painful

and primary attack of hæmorrhoidal tumours. She complained of heaviness and fatigue on the least exercise, with palpitations of the heart, and pains in the back, loins, and hips; also of flatulency and acidity in the stomach and bowels. The digestion was much impaired, and the appetite singularly depraved, as she would sometimes eat chalk and other things, and refuse her accustomed food. Her face was pale and of a yellowish hue, her lips colourless, her eyes encircled with a livid areola, her feet affected with œdematous swellings; with hysteria, cough, and every indication of want of power and energy in the constitution. These symptoms plainly indicated that the blood was greatly altered in quality, with a deficiency in its solid ingredients, and at the same time the depraved state of the secretions. The parents of this young lady were particularly anxious on her behalf, she being an only child; and after examining the bowel, where there was a tumour as large as a chesnut and another rather smaller, I was enabled to assure them that the local complaint would be speedily cured, and a healthy state of the constitution perfectly re-established, but that after her recovery it would be desirable to have her married with as little delay as possible.

After attending this young lady for nearly a month the disease of the bowel was cured, and the general health and strength became greatly restored, to the joy and satisfaction, of herself and family. In a letter I have since had the happiness to receive from her she states:—

“I am most happy to acquaint you that I feel no inconvenience from, or pain in the part where my

complaint was situated, and that my health is excellent, and appearance so much improved that you would scarcely recognise me. This will, I am sure, give you much pleasure. And, in addition, I may inform you that I am already engaged to be married, and sincerely hope that you will favour me with your company on my wedding day, which I will in due time have you informed of."

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### CASE XVII.

#### *Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Prolapsus of the Womb.*

I was requested to visit a lady of title who was suffering very much from hæmorrhoidal tumours and prolapsus of the womb. The lady informed me that she had been for upwards of ten years afflicted with prolapsus of the womb, which in her opinion had brought on the piles; and that she had suffered more than she could express, owing to her having always entertained a great objection to consult any medical gentleman upon so delicate a complaint, and that it required the greatest effort on her part, coupled with an increase of suffering, to form her present resolution of seeking professional assistance. A lady who had once been under my care, however, had given her such cheerful assurance of the result of my mode of treatment, and the great delicacy of its administration, that she confidently placed herself under my advice, being most anxious to be relieved of the pain and annoyance of the complicated dis-

order which gave her great inconvenience on taking the least exercise, and whenever the bowels were moved.

On examination I found three large hæmorrhoidal tumours and a considerable prolapsus of the womb, which required upwards of six weeks' constant attendance to effect a perfect cure. I had the pleasure to receive the following note some months after the cure was completed :—

“ Lady —— presents her compliments to Mr. Silver, and has great happiness in informing him that she continues in admirable good health, and considers the cure of her late distressing complaints to be most perfect and complete. Lady —— begs most sincerely to thank Mr. S. for his kindness and great attention.”

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### CASE XVIII.

*Stricture, Prolapsus, and Dysmenorrhœa, with  
Leucorrhœa.*

My professional assistance was required on behalf of the daughter of a nobleman, a young lady twenty years of age, and unmarried, who was considered to be in a hopeless state of health. On being introduced to the young lady, I was informed that the lower bowel was constantly in a state of protrusion, and that the bowels could never be moved without taking medicine; that for two years past she had suffered from a discharge which apparently came from the womb, and that the monthly period was always preceded by considerable pain in the loins, tenderness



of the abdomen, acute darting pains resembling those of colic, occurring mostly in paroxysms, vomiting, and much difficulty in voiding the urine. The discharge from the vagina consisted of a tenacious ropy mucus, and was voided in considerable quantity several times in the day. The nervous system was greatly affected, she was constantly troubled with hysterics, and her general health had become seriously impaired.

On examining the rectum I found that the prolapsus and constipation were caused by a stricture of the bowel of a very irritable description, which had most probably existed for a considerable period, and had propagated by its irritation disease in the neighbouring parts. This very complicated case required my personal attendance for upwards of two months ere the local disorders became perfectly cured, and after prescribing some gentle medicine to regulate the action of the bowels I recommended a visit to the sea coast, with a system of diet that it affords me the greatest gratification to say completely restored to this most amiable young lady the enjoyment of perfect health and strength. I have the pleasure to introduce an extract from a note received from her after her recovery :—

“ With much delight I acquaint you of my continued improvement in health and strength. I feel now quite equal to any exercise without the least inconvenience, and frequently take a long ride by the seaside, to the astonishment of many friends, who were expecting to hear of anything but my wonderful recovery. I cannot express to you how

grateful I feel for your kind and patient attention, and believe me that I shall never forget the invaluable service you have rendered me."

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## CASE XIX.

*Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Vesico-Vagina Fistula.*

I was consulted by a highly respectable lady from Cambridge, who stated that she had been afflicted with a complicated disorder since the birth of her last child, which happened about two years previously. She had had a very difficult labour, which brought on an attack of the piles, and subsequently a distressing complaint which she was unable to describe. The medical gentleman who had attended her in her confinement had used his best endeavours to give her relief, but without effect, and she had been advised to consult me without further delay.

On examination I found two hæmorrhoidal tumours, which were not very large, and only protruded when the bowels were moved; but I soon ascertained the great cause of her uneasiness, for on examining the vagina I immediately discovered a fistulous communication between the bladder and the vagina, which had resulted from a sloughing of the parts after the tedious labour she had spoken of. Having informed her that her case was one of much difficulty, and that a considerable period must necessarily elapse ere the cure could be perfected, I proceeded, agreeably to her request, with my usual

treatment, which in a few days removed the tumours in the bowel, but it required upwards of two months' daily attendance to effect the healing and permanent closure of the vesico-vagina fistulæ. A few months after her return home as a cured patient I had the pleasure to receive the following letter from this lady :—

“ My dear Sir,—I cannot sufficiently express my gratitude for the delightful comfort I now enjoy through your kind and gentle treatment. The cure of my most distressing complaints, effected with so little pain and comparatively in so short a time, appears to me yet like a dream, for previously to consulting you I had given up all hope of a cure, deeming that my case only admitted of some partial relief. This circumstance therefore proves that none need despair of being cured whilst Providence preserves you, and directs the afflicted to your skilful and gentle care. With feelings of the sincerest respect,

“ Believe me, dear Sir,

“ Yours very truly,

“ \_\_\_\_\_.”

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## CASE XX.

### *Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Polypus, with Hysteralgia.*

A young lady from Salisbury, eighteen years of age, the daughter of a naval officer, required my advice for the cure of a disease of the rectum, which was understood to be “the piles.” She had con-

siderable pain in the loins and round the hips, which occurred in paroxysms, more or less severe, on taking exercise or from the least mental emotion. She had noticed that the pain was particularly severe a few days before and after the menstrual period; but notwithstanding this indication, she had not the least idea that the womb was at all affected. Her general health had suffered considerably from the continuance of the pain, and the confinement which it occasioned; the circulation was languid; the stomach disordered; the bowels constipated; and a variety of nervous symptoms added to her state of general uneasiness.

From the presence of all these symptoms, I was satisfied that "the piles" could not be the only complaint which affected this young lady, but that the womb was in some way concerned; and I consequently suggested the necessity of an examination, which was consented to with admirable good sense; and I then discovered three hæmorrhoidal tumours in the rectum, and a pear-shaped polypus in the vagina, which grew from the womb. Having undertaken her cure, I had the felicity of seeing my young patient perfectly relieved and restored to health after five weeks' attendance. Shortly after her return home I had the favour of receiving a note from her, from which the following is an extract:—

"I am most happy to say—and I am sure that you will be gratified to hear—that I am quite well, and feel satisfied that I am perfectly cured. I can never fully appreciate your skill, which has restored me to health and comfort, and your particularly

kind and gentle care of me will ever be in my grateful remembrance."

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### CASE XXI.

#### *Prolapsus of the Rectum and Amenorrhœa with Chlorosis.*

I received a letter from a single lady, residing at Brighton, the daughter of a clergyman, from which the following is an extract:—

"For some time past I have been greatly troubled with constipation, and have been constantly obliged to take aperient medicine before I could obtain relief, which is always followed by the protrusion of the bowel. This also occurs on taking the least exercise, and is with much difficulty returned. Our family medical man has attended me, and recommended various means for my relief, which I have tried without deriving any permanent benefit. Some time since I was induced to have leeches applied to the part, and for a short period felt better; but I eventually found that the loss of blood had added to the debility and increased the disease from which I suffer. Severe palpitation of the heart has lately come on, and I now feel in that state which requires me to take some decisive step for relief, or otherwise I may soon become incurable."

A few days after I had replied to this lady's letter, my attendance was requested, and on visiting her I found that she was truly in an alarming con-

dition, for in addition to the protrusion of the bowel, which was very extensive, this young lady was suffering severely from suspended menstruation, combined with chlorosis. Her countenance was of a waxen and sallow colour; the lips livid; the eyes encircled with a dark areola; the breathing was hurried on the slightest exertion; the pulse was frequent, quick, and small; with palpitation of the heart; throbbing of the carotid arteries; pains in the back, loins, and hips; flatulency and acidity in the stomach and bowels; cedematous swellings of the feet, and every indication of want of power and energy in the constitution. She had also hysteria, cough, and a singularly depraved appetite.

After a careful examination of the protruded bowel, I had the happiness to inform this lady that her case admitted of a complete cure, but that a considerable period must necessarily elapse ere she would regain her natural strength. And it is here my pleasing duty to state that I had formed a correct opinion, for after two months' attendance this young lady was perfectly cured and restored to health, and has since recovered her bodily strength, as the following extract from a letter, received from her some time after her recovery, will fully illustrate:—

“To express the very deep sense of obligation which I feel to you, for the benefits which I have derived from your skill, and for the unwearied attention and kindness I experienced at your hands during the whole period of your attendance upon

me, is now my duty ; and I am delighted to inform you that the opinion you gave of the ultimate effect of your treatment, on undertaking the cure of my complicated case, is fully confirmed, as I have now, through God's blessing, completely regained my natural strength. For these benefits, and for the very great hospitality and kindness I received, believe me, I shall ever feel most sincerely grateful to you."

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## CASE XXII.

### *Hæmorrhoidal Tumours and Leucorrhœa.*

My advice was requested on behalf of a young lady, from Cheltenham, twenty years of age, and unmarried. She complained of a discharge of blood from the rectum, after the bowels were relieved, usually to the extent of half a pint, and of great pain from piles, which remained down for a considerable length of time after each evacuation. Her general health appeared to be greatly impaired. Her face, generally very pale, would frequently become flushed, accompanied by shivering and trembling of the body and limbs, and succeeded by giddiness, faintness, loss of recollection, depression of spirits, great anxiety and timidity. She was startled by the least noise, and lived in a state of constant apprehension that some great evil was about to befall her for an imaginary wrong which she would be tempted to commit against her will. Her sleep was often disturbed by frightful dreams ; the stomach was deranged ; the bowels very irri-

table; with palpitation of the heart, and a long train of the usual nervous symptoms.

On examination, I discovered that, in addition to two large hæmorrhoidal tumours, this young lady suffered from a considerable discharge of a slightly yellowish fluid from the vagina, which had existed for some time, apparently unknown to her, and which had doubtless been brought on by the irritation caused by the piles. To remove the tumours—the primary cause of all—was my first proceeding towards effecting the chief aim of every treatment, a cure, and this was very satisfactorily performed in the course of ten days, after which I proceeded with the appropriate treatment for the cure of the other local complaint, and for the re-establishment of the general health. This was happily effected, and the cure completed in less than seven weeks' attendance. The following extract is from a letter which I had the happiness to receive from this young lady on her return home:—

“It is with great pleasure I acknowledge the complete cure you have effected of my distressing complaints, under which I suffered so greatly, and for which I consulted several medical gentlemen without obtaining any relief. For the last ten months I was unable to undergo any exertion, or, indeed, stand upright for any length of time without the tumours protruding, when the pain became most excessive. I had, truly, given up all hopes of ever getting well, until my aunt gave me your book to read, when the perusal of the cases made me most anxious to see you and place myself under your



care. After a few weeks of your excellent and gentle treatment I have been enabled to return home restored to the full enjoyment of health, which appears to increase with each succeeding day. Accept my heartfelt thanks for all your kind and constant attentions, which will ever be a source of grateful recollection to me."

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### CASE XXIII.

#### *Stricture of the Rectum and Recto-Vagina Fistula.*

The following case was written by the patient, a lady residing near Bath:—

"I am thirty-three years of age, and generally had enjoyed good health till the summer of 1847, when I was attacked with severe internal pain in the lower bowel, having incautiously swallowed a fish-bone. From this time I became extremely ill, suffering greatly from pain in my back, which I attributed to piles or something forming in the rectum. After a month's confinement to my bed, an abscess, which had formed in the bowel, was opened by a medical gentleman, and the discharge, for a little time, gave some relief. My sufferings, however, have ever since been very great, and I have had the constant advice of one of the first surgeons in London, without deriving any benefit. My disease has now become complicated with stricture, and where the abscess was situated a fistulous opening exists, which communicates with the vagina. This is my present sad condition. Should you

consider my case curable (which, I am told, it is not), or even admits of some relief, I shall be most happy to place myself at once under your care."

In reply, I suggested the necessity of my making a personal examination of her case, to which she gave her ready acquiescence; and on visiting this lady after her arrival, I found that she was in a state of extreme debility from long-continued and intense suffering. After a careful examination of the local affection, which presented a complicated case of stricture of the rectum with a fistulous opening between the bowels and the vagina, through which the feces passed involuntarily, I assured her that her case was not altogether hopeless, but very probably would admit of a perfect cure, provided that her health improved as the treatment proceeded. My opinion evidently gave her much satisfaction; and after attending this lady daily for nearly seven weeks, the stricture was removed, the fistulous opening was healed and closed, and her health and strength became wonderfully improved, as the following letter illustrates in the plainest terms:—

"Dear Sir,—Gratitude requires me to acknowledge the complete cure you have effected of my distressing and painful case, after I had failed to obtain relief from other surgeons of eminence, under whose care I was for nearly four years. As you are aware, I was in a state of extreme debility, unable to walk or sit without great pain and difficulty, when I was fortunately recommended to apply to you, and by your skill and attention, I am most

happy to say am now restored to perfect health, greatly to the surprise of a numerous circle of friends. Accept my most grateful thanks for all your many attentions, and invaluable assistance, and

“ Believe me ever, dear Sir,

“ Yours most sincerely,

“ \_\_\_\_\_.”

If time permitted I could extend the number of these peculiar cases very considerably, but I believe that I have given the details of a sufficient number to illustrate the frequent occurrence of complaints of the rectum and anus in connexion with diseases peculiar to women.

THE END.







